



Clientell

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Inside: HMO Altius **** Immunizations *** Medical Bills ***

HMO Update - Altius

If you live in Salt Lake or Davis county and your Medicaid card says “ALTIUS” you must call your HPR (Health Program Representative) and choose another HMO (Health Maintenance Organization). After October 1, 2000, ALTIUS will not be a part of the Utah Medicaid program. If you want to keep seeing the same doctors, you must pick another HMO that works with them.

If your doctors are with the University of Utah Health Network (UUHN), you can choose one of the HMOs listed below:

American Family Care (AFC)
Healthy U (University of Utah HMO)
UnitedHealthcare of Utah (MedChoice)

If your doctors are with the St. Mark’s Physicians Network, you can choose from:

American Family Care (AFC) or
UnitedHealthcare of Utah (MedChoice)

Another HMO you can choose is **IHC Access**, but you will have to change the doctors you see.

If Altius is on your September card, call your HPR today. If you don’t choose a new HMO, one will be assigned for you. Please call one of the offices listed below:



OFFICE	TELEPHONE #
Downtown/Expo	524-9071
Metro Office	536-7112
South Valley (Midvale)	567-3835
South County (Taylorsville)	269-4890
Clearfield (Davis County)	776-7377 or 776-7363

Over 70 percent of all Utahns are enrolled in some form of managed care plan. From 1996 - 1999, 43-46% of Medicaid enrollees reported being completely satisfied with their health plan. - Source: Utah Health Status Update - July 2000

Shots don’t stop at age 2!

Kids get most of the shots they need by age 2. But don’t stop there. Kids need boosters or extra shots before they start kindergarten. And they need other shots at ages 11 or 12 as they go into junior high.



Junior high age is a good time to have the doctor check your child’s overall health and his/her shot record. Most preteens or teens need a back-to-school or a

sports physical. Exams are free if your child has Medicaid.

The **CHEC** program covers a well-child checkup every other year from ages 8 through 20. A **CHEC** visit is a good way to check for any habits that puts him/her at risk for disease. At the visit your pre-teen or teen can get any shots he/she needs. This includes shots missed as a small child.

The pre-teen or teen years are a time of change and trying “new things.” Some actions can lead to serious health problems. Protect your teen from health problems caused by infectious disease. Infectious means the disease spreads from one person to another in different ways. Someone who has multiple sex partners and doesn’t use protection or shares needles risks getting an infectious disease.

A person with special health care needs has a greater chance of getting sick. Teens and young adults with diabetes, asthma, or serious heart, lung or kidney problems need more protection from flu and pneumonia type bugs.

Shots to prevent some infectious disease:

Hepatitis B - if they’ve never had the shots. A person may get Hepatitis B if he/she is sexually active with multiple partners and uses no protection or uses dirty needles to inject drugs.



Hepatitis A - for anyone with serious liver

disease, or who injects drugs, or has unprotected sex, and lives in an area where Hepatitis A is common. It is passed on by eating or drinking contaminated food or water.

Chickenpox or Varicella - for kids ages 11-12 years who never had chickenpox or the shot.

MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) - Utah law requires all students, kindergarten through grade 12 to have 2 doses of this vaccine.

DtaP (tetanus/diphtheria) booster - kids get a booster at age 5 just before they go into kindergarten. **Td** is the tetanus booster they need at age 11-12. Everyone needs a booster every 10 years, or sooner if they have an accident or injury.

Shots protect everyone - infants, kids and the elderly - from getting or spreading infectious diseases. Check with your doctor or local health department to find out if anyone in your family needs shots.

Remember to:

- ▶ Keep shot records in a safe place.
- ▶ Always take them to the doctor.

Questions: Call the **Utah Immunization Program** at: (801) 538-9450

Did you Know?

Immunizations are one of the outstanding achievements of the 20th century. Transmission of smallpox has been eliminated world wide.

In 1999 Utah ranked 32nd in Two-Year Immunization Rate. Source: Utah Health status Update - June 2000

How to Avoid Problems With Medical Bills!

Always....

- Go to the doctor or HMO (health maintenance organization) on your Medicaid card.
- Show your Medicaid card to **every** provider **BEFORE** each medical, dental or mental health appointment.
- Show your Medicaid card **BEFORE** you order medical supplies, prescriptions, eyeglasses, hearing aids, etc.

What if you get a bill for medical services while you have Medicaid?



- Call the office who sent you the bill.
- Give him or her your Medicaid Identification number.
- If you still have a question, call Medicaid Information at 538-6155 or toll-free at 1-800-662-9651.
- **NEVER** ignore the bill!

Here is an example:
You showed your Medicaid card when you went into a hospital for surgery. Then you get a bill from an anesthesiologist and a bill from a radiologist. Call both medical providers immediately. Give each one your Medicaid number, HMO information or other insurance information they may need to get paid!

Medicaid and your HMO want to pay your medical bills. But they can only pay if your provider sends the bill to Medicaid or your HMO within a year of the date of service.

After a year, Medicaid cannot pay the bill. If you wait more than one year to call a doctor or hospital who sends you a bill, you may have to pay the bill yourself!

Resources

Utah Department of Health	
Check Your Health Hotline	1-888-222-2542
Health related information and referral	
Medicaid Hotline	1-800-662-9651
Baby Your Baby Hotline	1-800-826-9662
CHIP	1-888-222-2542
Children’s Health Insurance Program	
Immunize by Two	1-800-275-0659
Baby Watch Program	1-800-961-4226
Early Intervention - birth to 3	

Health Clinics of Utah is accepting new patients! Please call today for an appointment.
Ogden 626-3670
Provo 374-7011
Salt Lake 468-0354

Send your comments or suggestions to:
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